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Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

Claims 1-165 (canceled).

166. (previously presented) A toner container configured to be connected with a nozzle comprising an air inlet portion through which air flows into the toner container by way of an air conduit, said air inlet portion being configured to surround a toner outlet portion of the nozzle, and a hole through which toner is replenished to a developing section by way of a toner conduit, said toner container comprising:

a mating portion for allowing said toner container to mate with the nozzle; and
an air filter in a bottom of said toner container and is disposed at a position opposite to said air inlet portion of said nozzle.

167. (previously presented) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, wherein when said toner container is packed with toner to a packing density determined by dividing a weight (g) of the toner by a capacity (cm³) of said toner container, said packing density is 0.7 g/cm³ or less.

168. (previously presented) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, wherein said air is blown by an air pump into the toner container and said toner is sucked by a suction pump out of the toner container.

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169. (previously presented) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, wherein each of said toner outlet portion and the air inlet portion is tubular, and said tubular air inlet portion surrounds said tubular toner outlet portion.

170. (previously presented) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, wherein said toner container is deformable in accordance with air pressure to thereby vary a capacity of said toner container.

171. (currently amended) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, further comprising a ~~toner-outlet~~ mouth through which toner is discharged from said toner container.

172. (currently amended) A toner container as claimed in claim 171, wherein said mating portion allows said ~~toner-outlet~~ mouth to remain in a mating position with said nozzle, and said mating portion forms a sealing enclosure between the ~~toner-outlet~~ mouth and the nozzle.

173. (currently amended) A toner container as claimed in claim 172, wherein said mating portion includes an elastic member, and said elastic member forms a hermetically closed seal between said ~~toner-outlet~~ mouth and said nozzle.

174. (previously presented) A toner container as claimed in claim 171, wherein said toner outlet comprises a tubular body.

Claims 175-179 (canceled).

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180. (previously presented) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, wherein said toner is stored in said toner container.

181. (previously presented) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, further comprising: a sack formed of a flexible material; and a toner outlet through which the toner can be discharged from said sack.

182. (previously presented) A toner container as claimed in claim 181, wherein said sack is deformable in accordance with air pressure to thereby vary a capacity of said sack.

183. (previously presented) A toner container configured to be connected with a nozzle, said toner container comprising:

- a mating portion for allowing said toner container to mate with the nozzle;
- an air filter window in one of a bottom and a wall of said toner container;
- a sack formed of a flexible material;
- a toner outlet through which the toner can be discharged from said sack; and
- position preserving means for preserving a position of said sack.

184. (previously presented) A toner container configured to be connected with a nozzle, said toner container comprising:

- a mating portion for allowing said toner container to mate with the nozzle;
- an air filter window in one of a bottom and a wall of said toner container;
- a sack formed of a flexible material;

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a toner outlet through which the toner can be discharged from said sack; and
position preserving means for preserving a position of said sack, wherein said position
preserving means comprises a box-like member surrounding an entire periphery of said sack.

Claims 185-186 (canceled)

187. (currently amended) A toner container as claimed in claim [[186]] 166, wherein
said fitting portion of said toner outlet has a ship-like cross section.

188. (currently amended) A toner container as claimed in claim [[186]] 166, wherein
said toner outlet is provided with a flange which is disposed between said fitting portion and said
toner outlet.

189. (previously presented) A toner container as claimed in claim 181, wherein said
toner is stored in said toner container.

190. (previously presented) A toner container configured to be connected with a nozzle
comprising an air inlet through which air from an air pump flows into the toner container by way
of an air conduit, said air inlet being configured to surround a toner outlet of the nozzle, and a
hole through which toner sucked by a suction pump is replenished to a developing section by way
of a toner conduit, said toner container comprising:

a mating portion for allowing said toner container to mate with said nozzle; and
an air filter in a bottom of said toner container and is disposed at a position opposite to

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said air inlet of said nozzle.

191. (previously presented) A toner container as claimed in claim 190, wherein when said toner container is packed with toner to a packing density determined by dividing a weight (g) of the toner by a capacity (cm³) of said toner container, said packing density is 0.7 g/cm³ or less.